

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A cosmetic composition comprising:
  - (i) from about 0.0001 to about 30% by weight of a salt of malonic acid;
  - (ii) from about 0.05 to about 40% by weight of an organic sunscreen agent having a chromophoric group active within the ultraviolet radiation range of 280 to 400 nm; and
  - (iii) from about 1 to about 99.9% by weight of a cosmetically acceptable carrier.
2. The composition according to claim 1 wherein the malonic acid is present as a half neutralized and a fully neutralized acid in a molar ratio ranging from about 1000:1 to about 1:1000, respectively.
3. The composition according to claim 3 wherein the molar ratio is about 2:1 to about 1:200.
- 15 4. The composition according to claim 1 wherein the salt has a cationic counterion to malonate which is an inorganic cation selected from the group consisting of lithium, sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, ammonium and combinations thereof.
5. The composition according to claim 1 wherein the salt has a cationic counterion to malonate which is an organic cation having from 2 to 1,000 carbon atoms selected from the group consisting of polyethyleneimine, triethanolamine diethanolamine, propanolamine, monoethanolamine, methylamine, ethylamine, propylamine, isopropylamine, butylamine, isobutylamine, t-butylamine, pentylamine, isopentylamine, hexylamine, cyclohexylamine, cyclopentylamine,

norbornylamine, octylamine, ethylhexylamine, nonylamine, decylamine, pyrrolidone, amino acids, 2-amino-2-methyl-1-propanol, dimethylethanolamine, tris(hydroxymethyl)amino methane and combinations thereof.

6. The composition according to claim 1 wherein the sunscreen agent is 4,4'-t-butyl-  
5 methoxydibenzoylmethane.